

- ☑ New route for base shuttle (back page)
- ☑ Stop-Loss takes effect May 2 (back page)
- ☑ Food pantry accepting donations (back page)

Hours of operation

Chapel center:

Chaplain available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week
(pager: 413-785-3195), base Ext. 3031

Fitness center:

Daily, 5:30 a.m.-2 a.m.
Ext. 3958

Bowling center:

Monday-Friday lunch and bowling,
11 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
Ext. 3990

Westover Consolidated Club:

Lunch, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
dinner, 5-8 p.m.
Ext. 2039

Westover Dining Facility (daily)

Breakfast, 5-8 a.m., \$1.60 for those on per diem, UTA status - free
Midnight meals, 11 p.m.-1 a.m.
boxed meals provided daily
Ext. 2026

Family Support Center:

Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday of A UTA,
9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Saturday of B UTA, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
closed Sunday of B UTA
Ext. 3024

Legal office:

Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Ext. 3180

Base exchange:

Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sunday 11 a.m.-5 p.m.
Ext. 2901

Shoppette:

Monday-Saturday 8 a.m.-7:30 p.m.
Sunday 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Barber shop (located next to BX)

Tuesday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Saturday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
closed Sundays

Daily base shuttle:

Bus will complete route every 15 minutes during meal hours at the Westover Club and dining facility (see back page for updated schedule).
Ext. 3186

Dining facility is oasis of good cheer

Article and photos
by MSgt. Tom Allocco

For the maintainer embarking on a cold day on the flightline or the security specialist half way through a long night shift, the people who greet you with egg omelets and cups of steaming coffee are like best friends.

The sun is still below the horizon when services food specialists arrive at 4 a.m. and morning light is just beginning to break up black sky when they open the doors at 5 a.m. When you're walking across packed snow on a brisk March morning, the light in the dining facility windows and the mingling smells of frying potatoes, toast, eggs, coffee will make you step up your pace. No matter what happens during the day, you're starting with an advantage.

Since the beginning of the surge, the 439th Services Squadron food specialists have been serving midnight meals for those on the night shift. Following last week's activations of 12 food service specialists, they're now serving breakfast from 5 to 8 a.m.

They approach their job believing that food service means both good food and good



A1C Sadia Del Rosario prepares pancakes for early risers at the dining facility.

service, both at breakfast and for those working the night shifts. The "midnight meals" from 11 p.m. to 1 a.m. includes breakfast meals, burgers, pizza and other choices.

"Basically, we'll go the extra mile to satisfy our customers. Because lots of time it's a morale booster for these people. Having us out here sends the word that they are not forgotten at night, the ones left here overnight while everyone else has gone home" said TSgt. David Beauregard, assistant dining facility manager.

He remembers night of the record February snowfall when security guards, maintainers and snowplow drivers got hot meals because the Services people came to work at a time when the rest of the base was closed. Food service people like A1C Sadia Del Rosario, A1C Mariah Dion and A1C Michael Graves worked 14 or 15 hours.

"People put themselves on bad roads to get to work. We haven't missed a meal because of bad weather," Beauregard said.

Twelve-hour work days are routine. They have served up to almost 100 at



A1C Michael Graves drops treats into flight meals for the troops passing through Westover.

(continued on next page)

Oasis... (Continued from page 1)

midnight meals and prepared 320 boxed flight meals in one day.

One thing they've learned is that there is nothing routine about food service.

"We're on center stage when people come in the dining facility looking for something satisfying. The customer always comes first. We want them coming back," Beauregard said.

Behind the food service line, in that part of the dining facility most people don't see, meal time is a beehive of activity. Beauregard seems to be everywhere at once checking and orchestrating the activity. Services tech school is six weeks at Lackland AFB, where the first rule is safe food handling and the second is customer satisfaction.

Between "customers" on the food service line, Del Rosario recently broke into a few lines of "What a Lucky Day to Win," popular on the classic rock station. Breaks don't come often behind the line. "I'd rather stay busy. There's always something to do. After the meal you have to clean up and start getting ready for the next one," she said.

"Thanks for a great breakfast," a reservist said, walking out the door. "Thanks for coming," Del Rosario answered.

Pat Stats

Served since February 2, 2003
2,655 passengers - 512 aircraft
9,082,878 pounds of cargo
Info from MSgt. Jim Garrity, 42APS

Box lunches

2,124 hot meals served

701 to duty personnel

2,426 to flight passengers

Info from TSgt. David Beauregard, 439SVS

Fuel (since Feb. 1)

3,900,298 gallons of JP-8

Info from Jim Maloney, fuels

PATRIOT express

Contact us:

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USO Food Pantry helps Westover families

When military families need help, the Pioneer Valley USO is here for them, with no questions asked. A USO Food Pantry on base is offering food to an increasing number of military families following activations and economic downturns.

Sandy Wakefield, director of the Pioneer Valley USO, said activity at the food pantry has tripled since 9/11.

The only requirement for food assistance is a military ID card. No other questions about eligibility are asked of those who come to the food pantry. A family can come to the food pantry twice a month for assistance. People receive help at each visit based upon family size and

the amount of on hand.

Help to military families through the USO Food Pantry is made possible by donations of non-perishable foods from groups and individuals. Veterans groups, schools, scouts, law enforcement agencies, church and other civic groups donate to the pantry. Individuals are also encouraged to donate canned goods, cereals, juice and other non-perishable foods.

The USO Food Pantry is located in Bldg. 1100 on Walker Avenue, near the ellipse. It is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays and from noon to 4:30 p.m. on Saturdays of "A" and "B" UTAs. The office number is Ext. 3024.

Stop-Loss holds careers as of May 2

Effective May 2, 43 officer and 56 enlisted specialties will be stop-lossed.

The Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Manpower & Reserve Affairs) authorized Stop-Loss last week in order to retain specific skills needed to meet national security objectives.

"We do not take this action lightly," said Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche. "Stop-Loss is designed to preserve critical skills essential to supporting the global War on Terrorism, while ensuring we're prepared to meet other contingencies.

"We've implemented Stop-Loss to ensure we have the necessary skilled

personnel to conduct operations," said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper. "We'll use it only as long as necessary to accomplish our mission."

Stop-Loss is being implemented across the total force (active duty, Air Force Ready Reserve, and Air National Guard) for the designated career fields and affects all airmen in the rank of colonel and below, according to Maj. Teresa L. Forest, chief of Air Force retirements and separation policy at the Pentagon.

For more information, call SMSgt. Beverly Cote in the military personnel flight at Ext. 2588.

Base shuttle has new route

The base shuttle has a new route to destinations on Westover. It is as follows:

Base Hangar/Base Ops (Bldgs. 7087 & 7091); proceed down Hangar Avenue - stop as needed; backside of supply (Bldg. 5375); bowling alley (Bldg. 5402); officers quarters (Bldg. 2200 area); airmen's quarters (Bldg. 5102 area); dining facility (Bldg. 5100); Consolidated Club (Bldg. 6640).

On the return, the bus will complete its

route every 15 minutes during posted meal hours. For more information, call Ext. 2186.

Bible Study set for Wednesday

Bible Study will be held at noon on Wednesday in the Chapel Center in Bldg. 1100. This is a one-time change. Bible Study will continue to meet on Tuesdays starting March 25 at noon. All Westover personnel are welcome to participate. For more information, call Ext. 3031.

Express-ions

